



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# BULLETIN

OF THE

## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Entered as second class matter July 15, 1907, at the Post Office at Boston, Mass., under the Act of July 16, 1894

Vol. I, No. 6

BOSTON, MASS.

NOVEMBER, 1907

### CONTENTS

TRANSACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS

### CONSTITUTION

**T**HE Committee on the revision of the constitution has a most important work to do and it is hoped that members, having suggestions to offer, will respond immediately to the invitation of the committee, printed elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin.

For years it has often been remarked that the existing constitution is weak by reason of its ambiguity. That several of its paragraphs are susceptible of various interpretations has been shown on many an occasion.

The report of the Finance committee calls attention to the very important provision which should have long since been incorporated within the constitution. Reference is had to the absence of any direct provision for a fiscal year. Heretofore, the fiscal year has coincided with the calendar year, such interpretation receiving its support in Section 1 of the By-laws which, in reference to annual dues, says "payable in advance in January." As the treasurer is elected at the annual conference, sometimes in the spring and sometimes in the fall, it happens that the yearly financial statement always covers the operations of two treasurers, an entirely unusual and undesirable condition, the more especially as it is impossible for the outgoing treasurer to immediately turn over to his successor the books and accounts of the association, this by reason of the fact that the out-going treasurer must close his accounts after the conference has adjourned. This clearly means that there is no specific date on which the transfer is made. If, however, the fiscal year should end on the last day of December there would be no such complications preventing the immediate transfer on that date from one treasurer to another.

The expenses of each year must be borne by the income of that year and it would seem wise, not only to have the fiscal year coincide with the calendar year; but to make the office of the treasurer coincide with both. Due consideration, indeed, should be given to the very natural suggestion that all of the officers and committees of the association should hold office from January to January. Thus would it happen that their tenure of office would always cover the same and a specified period of time. In 1889-1890 their term of office lasted fifteen months while in 1904-1905 the officers of the association served less than nine months,